



Henrietta United Church of Christ

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Pastor: Rev. Martha Koenig Stone

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Church Administrator: Andrea Folan

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Ministers: Everyone!

Order of Worship

10:30 AM

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

WE GATHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

CENTERING MUSIC FOR LENT

Joan Barnes, Cantor

Gathered here in the mystery of this hour, gathered here in one strong body,
Gathered here in the struggle and the power, Spirit draw near. (2X)

Text and music: Phil Porter, 1990; © 1990 Elaine Kirkland and Phil Porter

WELCOME

Melissa Bauch

PASSING OF THE PEACE (one / many)

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another in the spirit of Christ's love and peace!
Messages of peace may be shared in the comments in our broadcast.*

SUNG RESPONSE "There's a Spirit of Love in This Place"

There's a spirit of love in this place, there's a spirit of love in this place.

You can't see it, but it's there, just as precious as the air.

There's a spirit of love in this place.

O alleluia, sing alleluia! We bless your holy name.

O alleluia, sing alleluia! There's a spirit of love in this place.

Words and Music by Mark Miller, © 2003 Abingdon Press

WE OPEN OUR HEARTS TO GOD'S RENEWING PRESENCE

+CALL TO WORSHIP (one / many)

Pastor Martha

Day by day, God leads us:

to the deep, deep pools of peace,

to the green, lush lawns of grace.

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**to pour out ourselves in service,
to anoint the stranger with hope.**

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**the community we could be,
the family we are called to become.**

Let us open ourselves to God's leading, to Christ's calling,
to the Spirit's visioning, as we join in worship together.

***OPENING HYMN** "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;
open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear,
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;
open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;
open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Words and Music: Clara H. Scott, 1895.

****LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY**

Reflection

Silent Prayer

Extinguishing the Fourth Lenten Candle

Prayer of Renewal (*in unison*)

Living God, we thank you that we may call upon you, no matter where we are or what we are experiencing. Keep us aware of your presence, alert to your promise, responsive to your people, and open to your healing Spirit, at work within our unfolding lives. Amen.

+++WORDS OF GOD'S ENDURING LOVE (*one / many*)

Friends, receive the anointing of God's tender love and forgiveness this day!
God's care and compassion abide forever, for you and for all people.

Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Martha

ANTHEM

“For Love of You”
 Words by Mary Kay Beall, Music by John Carter

HUCC Choir

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S GOOD NEWS

GOSPEL READING

John 9:1-25

Dave Meyer

MESSAGE

“Restored”

Pastor Martha

***HYMN OF AFFIRMATION**

“God is My Shepherd”

God is my shepherd, I’ll not want, I feed in pastures green.
 God grants me rest and bids me drink from waters calm and clean.
 Through daily tasks, I’m blessed and led by One I have not seen.

Restored to life each morning new, I rise up from the dust
 to follow God, whose presence gives me confidence and trust.
 I praise the name of God today; in God I put my trust.

When I must pass through shadowed vale, where loss and death await,
 I will not fear, for God is there, my shepherd strong and great,
 Whose rod and staff will comfort me and all my fears abate.

No enemy can overcome, no power on earth defeat
 the ones anointed by God’s grace and fed with manna sweet.
 My cup is filled and overflows as I my Savior greet.

Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;
 and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwelling place will be.
 My shepherd blesses, cares, and leads through all eternity.

Text: Psalm 23, Scottish Psalter, 1650; adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992; © 1992 The Pilgrim Press.

Tune: BROTHER JAMES’ AIR, James Leith Macbeth Bain, c. 1840-1925; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1934, © 1934 Oxford University Press.

WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD’S SERVICE

MOMENT FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

Dee Knisely

INVITATION TO GRATEFUL GIVING

Pastor Martha

OFFERTORY

“Blessed Redeemer,” by Stan Pethel
 Tune by Harry Dixon Loes (1920)

Laurie Fox

***SONG OF PRAISE** (*in unison*)

Praise God, who welcomes us with grace,
who blesses every time and place,
whose Christ shows every person's worth,
whose Spirit gives us all new birth!

Tune and text adapted from the Geneva Psalter (1551)

******PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*Let us pray together. . .*)

Generous God, you anoint our heads with oil and fill our cups to the brim and open our eyes to the possibilities of your future! With thanks, we bring our gifts to share with the hurting and heartbroken, the forgotten and despised, that through your grace we may all be made whole. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eric Falla

***SENDING HYMN** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever;
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my spirit's power filled you, here with tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

Go, my children, with new vision, born from above,
Hearts wide open to my people, led by my love.
On the shadows that surround us, shine the light of peace and justice,
Go, my children, with new vision, led by my love.

Words stanza 1 © 1983, stanza 2 © 1990 Jaroslav J. Vajda; alt. Words stanza 3 © 2023 Martha Koenig Stone.
Tune: AR HYD Y NOS, Traditional Welsh melody.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Martha

POSTLUDE "Postlude: "Voluntary on The Third Tune," by David Lasky Laurie Fox
Tune: The Third Tune, by Thomas Tallis

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD TO SHARE OUR HOPE

As our worship ends, our service begins.

+Adapted from a Call to Worship by Thom Shuman, found at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Lent%204%20A>

++Adapted from a liturgy by Jeanyne Slettom on the Process & Faith website, found at <https://processandfaith.org/lenten-candle-liturgy/>

+++Adapted from "Come Peaceably: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday in Lent," by Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister for the Indiana Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ, found at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/lent-4a-march-19/>

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